

March 18, 2002

**In the Matter of Taxicab Driver's
License #04968, held by Mohamed
Hashi Farah, 2523 Bloomington Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55404**

**Findings of Fact
Conclusion and
Recommendations**

This matter came before the Licenses and Consumer Services Division (LCS) at a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) hearing held March 1, 2002 in room 1-C of City Hall. Mr. Farah was present and represented himself. Also present was Deputy Director Clara Schmit-Gonzalez; License Inspector Vu Tran; Traffic Control Agent Paula Rangle and Thomas Benjamin; Taxicab driver Hussein Mohamed. Based on the evidence presented at the hearing, the Licenses and Consumer Services Division makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- 1) Mr. Farah is currently a holder of Minneapolis Taxicab Driver's License #04968.
- 2) On February 20, 2002 while patrolling the metered parking spaces on 7th Street South near the Roanoke taxicab stand, Traffic Control Agent Thomas Benjamin observed a Yellow Taxicab parking illegally in a metered space. The driver side door was swung open and the driver wasn't around. A citation was issued for expired meter and extending the cabstand.
- 3) As the agent was doing this, Mr. Farah returned to his unattended cab and stated he was inside the adjacent building to use the restroom.
- 4) The agent indicated that Mr. Farah threatened to inflict bodily harm toward him if he continued with the issuance of the citation. After finishing writing the citation, the ticket was handed to Mr. Farah. Mr. Farah took the citation and threw it back at the agent.
- 5) The agent testified that Mr. Farah continued with his threats and as a result Traffic Control Agent Benjamin called his supervisor and the police. While waiting for the police to arrive a witness approached Traffic Control Agent Benjamin and advised him that this cab has been parking in that metered space with its door swung open for the past ten minutes.
- 6) Mr. Farah denied any threats. The witness indicated he did not hear any threats. Minneapolis Police Office T.M. Savior concluded that the threats were hearsay and did not issued Mr.

Farah any citations. Officer Savior called Licensing Inspector Tran, advised him what had happened and left.

- 7) Licensing Inspector Tran called Yellow Taxi and had Mr. Farah placed out of service until the incident could be further investigated.
- 8) At the technical advisory committee hearing, Mr. Farah admitted that he was parked illegally at the metered space, but denied ever threatened the traffic control agent.
- 9) A review of Mr. Farah's taxicab file yielded a similar complaint back in December 19, 2001. Traffic Control Agent Paula Rangle cited Mr. Farah for obstructing traffic at the same location.

CONCLUSIONS

1. For extending the cabstand and parking illegally in a metered space, Mr. Farah has violated City of Minneapolis Taxicab Ordinance section 341.210 [No parking in certain areas].
2. For refusing to comply with a traffic control agent while in the performance of their duties, Mr. Farah has violated Minneapolis Taxicab Ordinance section 341.250(i) [Prohibited acts].

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is the recommendation of the Division of Licenses and Consumer Services that:

- 1) Mr. Farah will pay an administrative fine of one hundred dollar (\$100.00) to the City of Minneapolis Finance Department.
- 2) Mr. Farah of Yellow Taxi Service Company will be call out-of-service for one week. Since Mr. Farah has been on hold since February 20, 2002, this will be credited toward the one-week suspension.
- 3) Mr. Farah understands any similar incidents will result in a recommendation for license revocation.

I have read the Technical Advisory Committee's Findings of Fact, Conclusions and Recommendations. I understand and agree to the recommendations contained herein and understand this agreement is subject to the approval of the City Council. I further agree that any violation of this agreement may result in the suspension or revocation of my Minneapolis Taxicab Driver's License and or Vehicle License.

Signature, Mr. Mohamed Hashi Farah

Date

Witness

Date